

Written Testimony

In regards to Raised House Bill 5263

Submitted by: Walton Schlechtweg

Senior Master Sergeant (Retired) CT Air National Guard

Past President of the National Guard Association of CT

To: Select Committee on Veterans Affairs
Thursday, February 25, 2010

Members of the Select Committee on Veteran's Affairs, I regret that due to other commitments, I am unable to appear before you today. I do wish to submit comments for your consideration on Raised House Bill No. 5263
An Act concerning Retirement for Retired Veterans

Prior to the enactment of PA 09-4 commissioned officers and warrant officers could apply (1) while in service directly through proper officers or (2) after leaving service, **directly to the Adjutant General**. Line 31 of this bill corrects this oversight.

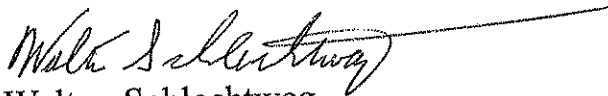
As a retired Air National Guard Senior Master Sergeant with thirty eight (38) years service I support this Bill with the following exception

The title of "Sergeant Major" is for pay grade E-9 in the Army National Guard. The Air National Guard's title for pay grade E-9 is "Chief Master Sergeant." I recommend that on line no. 18 and line no. 35 that the words "or chief master sergeant" be inserted immediately after "or sergeant major."

There many enlisted members of both the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard, who have taken the required professional military training, and are assigned in specialties that do not offer any promotion opportunity to the next higher grade. It is only fitting that these dedicated individuals be rewarded with a promotion to the next higher grade

Thank you for your time; I am available to answer any question you have.

Respectfully,



Walton Schlechtweg

860-240-334 / 860-346-4383

e-mail: schlechtw@aol.com